GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:149
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2017
Deportation from USA
Gaikwad Prof. Ravindra Vishwanath

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the illegal migrants in the USA are being deported from that country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total number of Indian migrants likely to get affected as a result thereof; and

(c) the details of various steps being taken by the Government to address the issue?

Answer

THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 149 REGARDING "DEPORTATION FROM USA" FOR ANSWER ON 26.07.2017.

(a) to (c) President Trump issued an Executive Order titled "Enhancing Public Safety in the Interior of the United States" dated 25 January 2017 which inter alia "directs agencies to employ all lawful means to ensure the faithful execution of the immigration laws of the United States against all removable aliens". Subsequently, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued two Implementation Memorandums dated 20 February 2017 which inter alia instructs all DHS personnel to "initiate enforcement actions against removable aliens encountered during the performance of their official duties." Those who have been involved in any criminal conduct or pose a risk to public safety or national security have been prioritized for arrest and removal by the US Government. Exemption granted to undocumented immigrants who entered the country as minors has not been impacted so far.

The Government remains closely engaged with the U.S. Government on all issues relating to safety and welfare of Indian Diaspora in the U.S. There are no authoritative figures on the number of undocumented Indian immigrants in the U.S. GOI does not encourage illegal migration of Indian citizens into other countries. From time to time, Indian Embassy and Consulates in the US facilitate repatriation of undocumented Indian immigrants after their nationality verification. Since 2014, 702 undocumented Indian nationals have been issued travel documents to enable their safe return to India.

Issues relating to the welfare of the Indian Diaspora in the United States are constantly under discussion between the two Governments. Our Embassy and Consulates in the US are also in regular contact with local Indian community groups to address any emergent issue relating to the Diaspora. The Government remains vigilant to developments impacting the lives of Indians abroad and will do everything possible to safeguard their interests and welfare.

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